

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 OMB-01 /086 W
-----053941 142306Z /66

R 141146Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7246
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CD, EG, LY, XF
SUBJECT: SADAT, PRESS DEMONSTRATE ADDITIONAL CONCERN ON CHAD

REFS: CAIRO 11572 (NOTAL)

1. ALL PAPERS JULY 14 HEADLINE EGYPTIAN CONCERN OVER
LIBYAN/SOVIET MACHINATIONS IN AFRICA. "MESSAGE FROM
SADAT TO CARTER ON SITUATION IN AFRICA"--"LIBYA ATTACKS
CHAD;" "MOSCOW SUPPORTS ETHIOPIA 100 PERCENT...
QADHAFI THREATENING SUDAN AND CHAD;" "WE WANT AMERICAN
ARMS TO DEFEND AFRICA."

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2. COVERAGE PARTLY RESULTED FROM SADAT'S MEETING WITH
CODEL HAMILTON (SEPTTEL). ALTHOUGH MOST OF HIS
REMARKS WERE ON MIDDLE EAST, SADAT MENTIONED CONCERN
WITH "SOVIET ARMS STREAMING INTO ETHIOPIA" AND SAID HE
HAD RECEIVED MESSAGE FROM BREZHNEV DECLEARING SOVIETS
WILL BACK ETHIOPIA 100 PERCENT. SADAT SAID HIS CONCERNS

EXPRESSED IN MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT CARTER. SADAT CLAIMED, ACCORDING TO PRESS, THAT QADHAFI ARMING CHAD TRIBES TO THREATEN SUDAN AS WELL AS GOVERNMENT OF CHAD. SADAT "DOES NOT WANT US SOLDIERS TO FIGHT IN AFRICA BUT NEEDS ARMS FOR SELF-DEFENSE" (I.E., FOR AFRICAN AS OPPOSED MIDDLE EAST PURPOSES).

3. AHAM ALSO REPORTED PUBLIC STATEMENT BY "CHAD LIBERATION FRONT" REP IN LIBYA THAT 4,000 LIBYAN TROOPS JOINED TOUBOU TRIBES IN ATTACK ON "THREE SITES" IN TIBESTI AREA. SPOKESMAN QUOTED AS SAYING OBJECTIVE IS TO PLACE AREA UNDER LIBYAN CONTROL PRIOR TO DETACHING IT FROM CHAD. ACCORDING SPOKESMAN, LIBYAN ARMY PREPARING USE "OLD AIR FIELDS" IN TIBESTI TO LAUNCH SURPRISE AIR ATTACK ON CHAD ARMED FORCES. LIBYA, SPOKESMAN SAID, "HAS NO OBJECTION" TO CREATION OF TOUBOU STATE UNDER LIBYAN TUTELAGE ON PATTERN OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ALGERIA AND SAHARA ARAB DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC. AHAM REPORT ADDED LIBYAN GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID LATER THAT GOL "EXERTING UTMOST EFFORTS" REACH COMPROMISE BETWEEN CHAD AND LIBERATION FRONT. AHAM COMMENTED THAT LIBERATION FRONT SPOKESMAN'S REMARKS PROVE LIBYA PLANS CONSOLIDATE CONTROL OVER NORTHERN CHAD WITH AIM OF CONCENTRATING FORCES NEAR SUDAN AND THREATENING "AFRICAN NATIONAL REGIMES." COMMENTARY DISMISSES LIBYAN CLAIM THAT EGYPT PLANNING ACTION AGAINST LIBYA AS "PRODUCT OF SICK LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MIND."

4. COMMENT: SADAT'S PUBLIC TALK OF NEED FOR ARMS FOR DEFENSE OF AFRICA ESCALATES ANOTHER NOTCH GOE INVOLVEMENT IN CHADIAN QUESTION. WE DO NOT CONSTRUE SADAT'S CALL FOR MILITARY AID AS PLOY TO CONVINCE US IT SHOULD TAKE UP SLACK LEFT BY TERMINATION OF EGYPTIAN/ SOVIET ARMS RELATIONSHIP. THIS DOUBTLESS COMPATIBLE WITH HIS THINKING, BUT HIS CONCERN OVER SOVIET MACHINATIONS IS REAL AND HE SEES EVENTS IN CHAD AND ETHIOPIA AS PART OF LONG RANGE SOVIET DESIGN "TO GET HIM." WE SHOULD NOT, THEREFORE, UNDERESTIMATE GENUINENESS OF HIS CONCERN THAT SOVEREIGNTY AND INDEPENDENCE OF AFRICAN STATES, PARTICULARLY MODERATES, MUST BE DEFENDED. EILTS

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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